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(54) **INK JET PRINTER**

(57) Abstract:

**PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED:** To perform multicolor printing at a high speed and to enable continuous printing operation.

**SOLUTION:** A drum 10 rotatable at a constant peripheral speed, a medium holding means 20 holding a printing medium M to the outer peripheral surface 11 of the drum 10 and respective color nozzle units 200 having a large number of ink jet nozzles 207 arranged to the drum 10 so as to be positionally shifted in the rotary direction of the drum 10 are provided and color ink is sprayed on the printing medium M during the rotational movement along with the drum 10 from the selected one of the color ink nozzles 207 to perform color printing. The respective color nozzle units 200 are attached so that the respective ink jet nozzles 207 can be separated from and brought into contact with the outer peripheral surface 11 of the drum and, in a separated case, the respective ink jet nozzles 207 of the color nozzle units 200 are covered with a cap to prevent ink drying.

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